

B-4469

WEST BALTIMORE AFRICAN-AMERICAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

This 1932 schoolhouse was designed in the Stripped Classical style. It is a three-story, brown-brick building with touches of Art Deco detailing. It sits on a raised mound of land which was the former site of the Maryland Homeopathic Hospital. It is a large, cubic structure with flat roof. Today, the building is owned by Urban Services, and houses local government agencies and non-profits.

AD INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES FORM
ANDTOWN-WINCHESTER SURVEY

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name West Baltimore African-American Elementary School

other names/site number Coppin Elementary School (132)/B-4469

2. Location

street & number 1150 Mount St.

not for publication

city or town Baltimore

vicinity N/A

state Maryland

code MD

county

Baltimore City

code 510

zip code 21217

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

N/A

4. National Park Service Certification

N/A

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
☒ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing

Noncontributing

1

1

buildings
sites
structures
objects
Total

SDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form
(West Baltimore African-American Elementary School)
(Baltimore City, MD)

(Page 2)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: EDUCATION

Sub: school

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: _____

Sub: _____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Stripped Classical

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK

roof _____

walls BRICK

other STONE

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.) See continuation sheet.

8. Statement of Significance See continuation sheet.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Education

Ethnic Heritage

SDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form
(West Baltimore African-American Elementary School)
(Baltimore City, MD)

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Period of Significance 1932-1940

Significant Dates 1932

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Buckler & Fenhagen Architects

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.) See continuation sheet.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Maps

Bromley, G.W. and Co. Atlas of the City of Baltimore, Vol. 1. Philadelphia: 1885, 1896.
Hopkins, G.M. Map of the City of Baltimore, Maryland. 1876, 1877.
Sanborn Map Company. Insurance Maps, Baltimore, Maryland, Vols. 2,3, and 7. New York: 1890, 1901, 1914, 1928.
Simmons, Isaac. 1852 Revision of the Thomas H. Poppleton Map. Baltimore: 1852.

Archives of the Board of Education, Baltimore City

Baltimore City Archives, Records of the Board of Education

Baltimore City School Survey (1951, revised 1961) and Context Statement (Maryland Historical Trust, 1990), CHAP files.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.47 acres

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form

(West Baltimore African-American Elementary School)
(Baltimore City, MD)

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UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
2	—	—	—	4	—	—	—

— See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries are based on a city lot(s) retaining original property lines.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Elizabeth Jo Lampl & Kay Fanning/Architectural Historians
organization Robinson & Associates date July 1992
street & number 1710 Connecticut Ave., NW telephone (202) 234-2333
city or town Washington state DC zip code 20009

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name _____
street&number _____ telephone _____
city or town Baltimore state MD zip code _____

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 5 & 6 Page 1

West Baltimore African-American
Elementary School
name of property
Baltimore City, Maryland
county and State

HISTORIC CONTEXT

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Modern Period

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture, Landscape
Architecture, and Community Planning; Social/Education/Cultural

Resource Type:

Category: building(s)

Historic Environment: urban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): education

Known Design Source: Buckler & Fenhagen Architects

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

West Baltimore African-American
Elementary School
name of property
Baltimore City, Maryland
county and StateDESCRIPTION

This school is executed in a Stripped Classical style and exhibits a slight Art Deco touch in its extant brick patterning and in the original wire glass of the stair lights, now removed. (See attached plans.) The building sits on a raised mound of land formerly occupied by the Maryland Homeopathic Hospital. The building's setback and large cubic mass continue the tradition established by the hospital of a large public building set within a campus on residential Mount Street.

The building features a main block with a three-part division of twenty-one bays flanked by broad one-bay, projecting stair blocks. The overall feeling of the building is horizontal, while the decorative work overlays a vertical rhythm upon the facade. The brick building has a granite base and slag roof. The windows are steel sash at the basement level and metal sash above. Bronze grilles provide ventilation throughout the building. The coping of the parapet is stone.

The stair blocks have a continuous vertical window divided horizontally by mullions. While plate glass today, these windows originally featured wire glass in a paired arrowhead formation. Stone beltcourses run across the brick facade above the first and third floors.

The many windows in the center are slightly recessed with narrow brick strips running between from the basement beltcourse to the top of the wall. The strips form a procession of narrow vertical divisions across the facade. The windows are grouped in three sections of seven bays each. Today, the windows have one-over-one sash. Originally, the windows featured nine-over-nine sash. Those on the first floor have a continuous brick lintel. Between the windows of the second and third floors are spandrels of patterned brick striping. The windowless attic story is slightly raised as a parapet above the central block and also features brick striping.

To the north, a small, two-story, six-bay wing projects from the main building. It is articulated in the same fashion as the main block, with a stone beltcourse and narrow, grouped windows separated by vertical brick piers. Above the windows are patterned brick stripes.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 1

West Baltimore African-American
Elementary School
name of property
Baltimore City, Maryland
county and StateSIGNIFICANCE

Built as the West Baltimore Colored Elementary School in 1932, this building was erected by the Public Improvement Commission of the City and designed by architects Buckler & Fenhagen. James Posey was Consulting Mechanical Engineer and Henry Massard, Consulting Structural Engineer. The Supervising Engineer for the Public Improvement Commission was Herbert J. Leimbach.

The building was designed in 1930 to the modern standards conveyed through the Strayer Survey of 1920-21. The 10,276-square foot building was designed with 22 classrooms and a cafeteria to seat 100 people. Floors were divided by grades: the lower grades on the ground floor (along with the principal's office and health suite); the 3rd through 5th grades on the second floor, with the library; and classrooms (presumably the sixth grade) on the third floor, with the auditorium and arts and crafts rooms.

Since the beginning, the school served the community as an elementary demonstration school for teachers trained at Coppin State Normal School, a training school for African-American teachers. The teachers in training at Coppin wanted the opportunity to continuously observe the teaching methods of those employed at the elementary school. They occupied the top floor of the building. The 1932 Map of the School System (revised to September 1944) shows that both School No. 132 (Coppin Elementary) and School No. 402 (Coppin Normal) were both operating out of the building.

In 1931-32, Coppin embarked upon the first year of a new three-year training course modeled after that of Towson Normal School. In addition, it placed higher mental and physical qualification standards on its entrants. All students had to make an average of eighty or above.

SANDTOWN-WINCHESTER/PENN-NORTH
RECONNAISSANCE-LEVEL SURVEY FORM

Survey No. B-4469

Neg. No. 2/19

Historic Name West Baltimore African-American Elementary School

Current Name/Use _____

Address(es) 1150 Mount Street

Resource/Property Type

- ☐ Rowhouses
☐ Commercial Structure
☒ Public/Institutional Building
☐ Public Housing
☐ Site
☐ Other

☐ Attached
☒ Freestanding

Note: site of former Maryland Homeopathic Hospital

Stories 3

Primary Material brick Secondary Material stone

Roof Form flat

No. of Bays in Unit/Facade 23 If Rowhouse: ☐ Flat Front ☐ Swell Front ☐ Porch

Window Type: ☒ Double-Hung ☒ 1/1 Sash
☐ 2/2 Sash ☐ 2/1 Sash
☐ Other Sash ☐ Transom

Door Type: ☐ Single-Leaf
☐ Double-Leaf
☐ Number of panels (if visible)
☐ Transom

Architectural Style Stripped Classical Date c. 1932

Noteworthy Features: Central block flanked by side blocks with stairs. Vertical strips of brick define tall narrow bays with vertical window openings; bays slightly recessed. Stone beltcourse above first floor and between third story and attic. Attic story over central block slightly raised as parapet. Stairs have continuous vertical window; plate glass? Smaller six-bay, two-story wing projects to right.

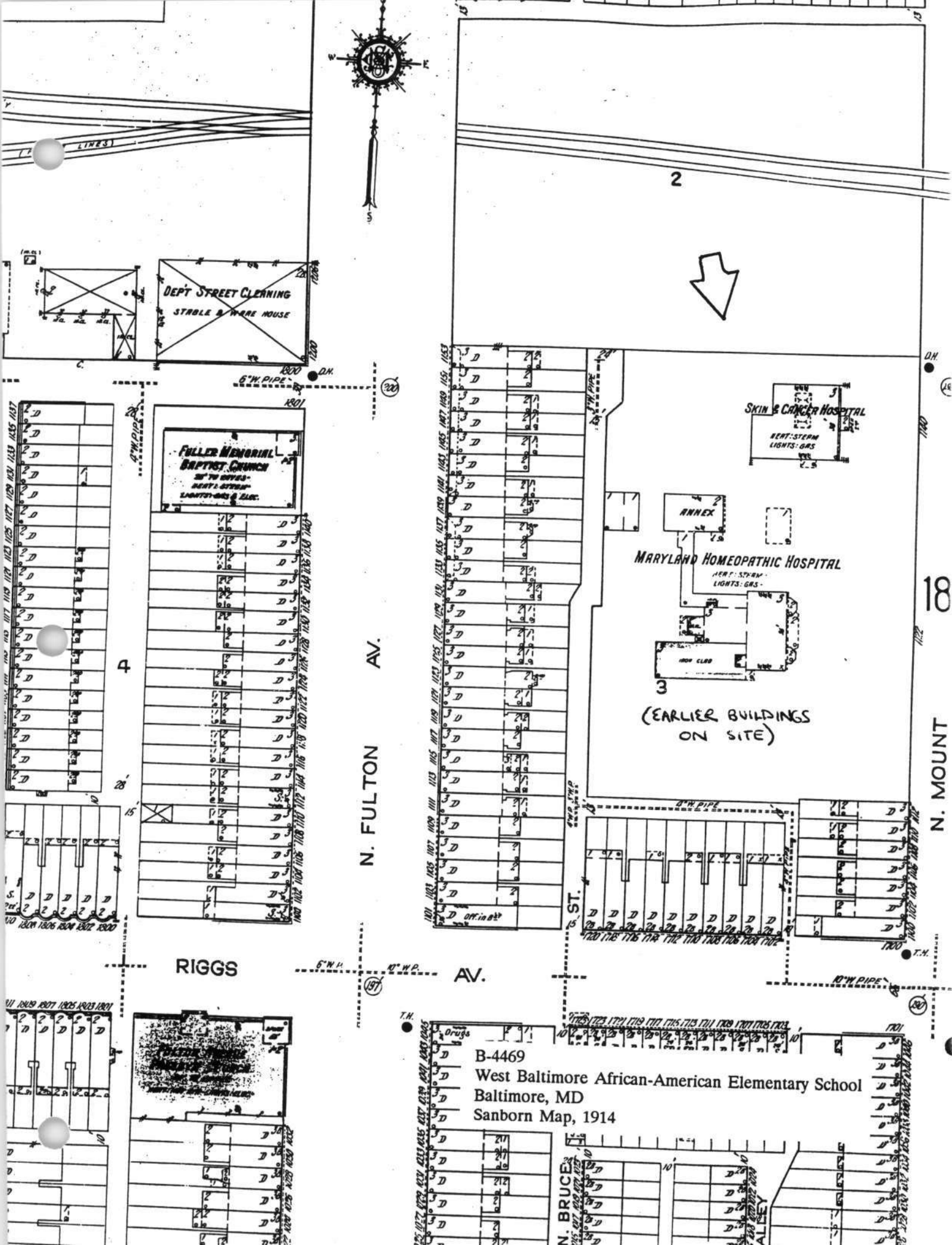
Alterations: ☐ Formstone ☐ Stucco
☐ Vinyl/Aluminum ☒ Window/Door Changes
☐ Awnings ☐ Missing Cornice Elements
☐ First-Floor Use Change ☐ Other: _____

Status: ☐ Occupied ☐ Vacant ☐ Mixed
NR Evaluation: ☒ Contributing ☐ Non-Contributing

Recommended for Intensive Level: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Surveyor: Joey Lampl
Date: February-April 1992

Affiliation: Robinson & Associates



DEPT STREET CLEANING
STABLE & WARE HOUSE

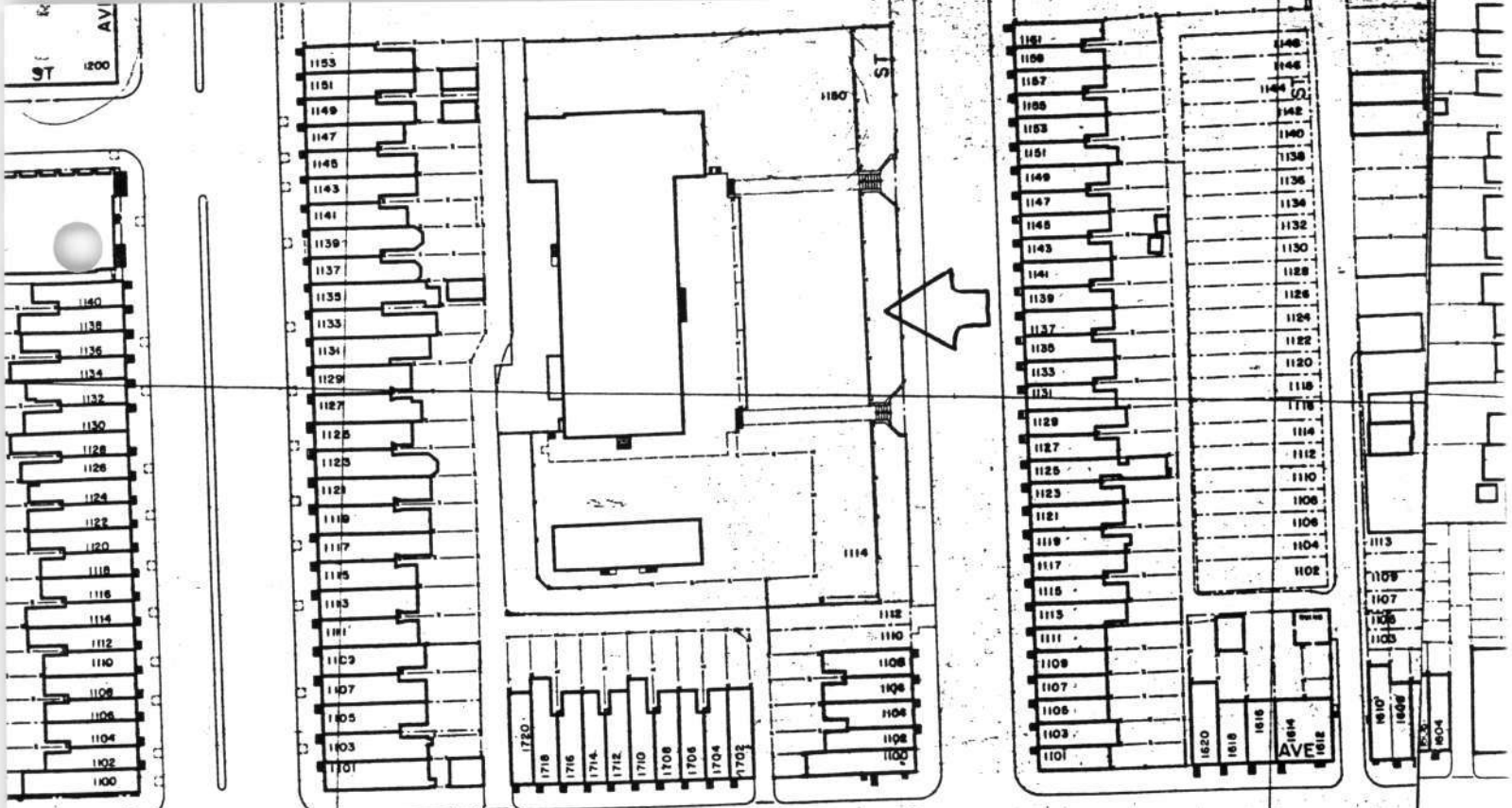
FULLER MEMORIAL
BAPTIST CHURCH
20' TO ROOFS -
HEAT & STOVE -
LIGHTS - GAS & ELEC.

SKIN & CANCER HOSPITAL
HEAT - STEAM
LIGHTS - GAS

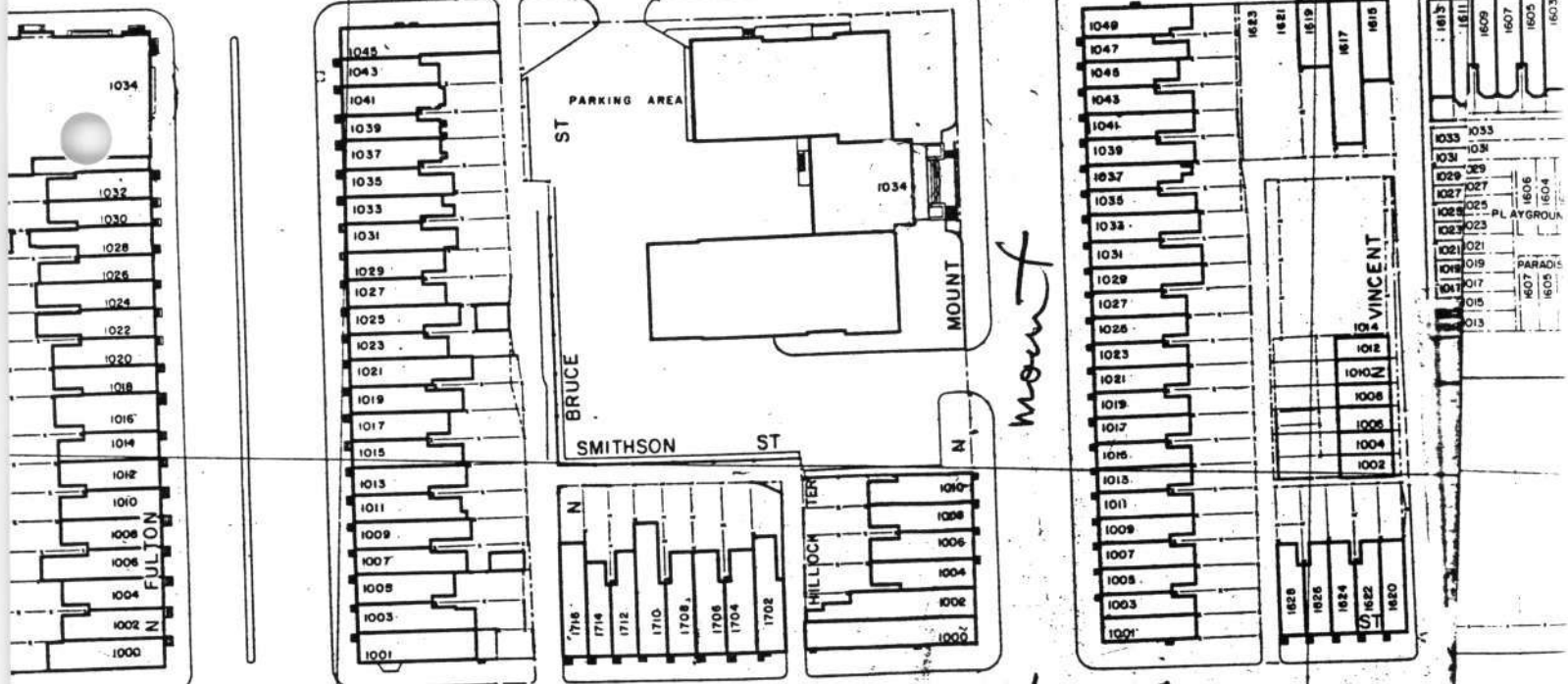
MARYLAND HOMEOPATHIC HOSPITAL
HEAT - STEAM
LIGHTS - GAS

(EARLIER BUILDINGS
ON SITE)

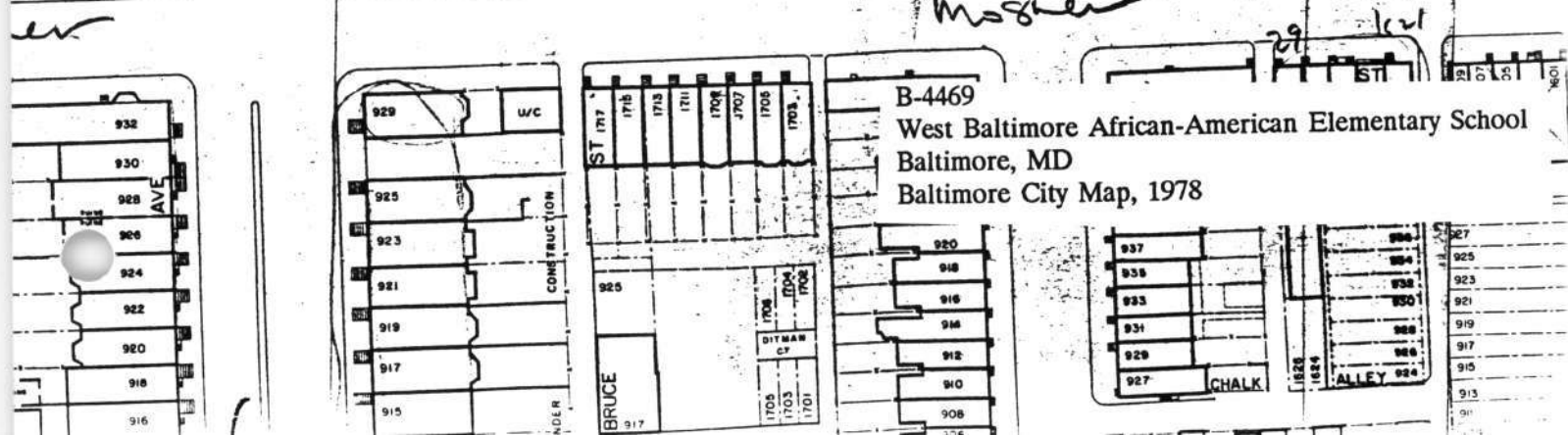
B-4469
West Baltimore African-American Elementary School
Baltimore, MD
Sanborn Map, 1914



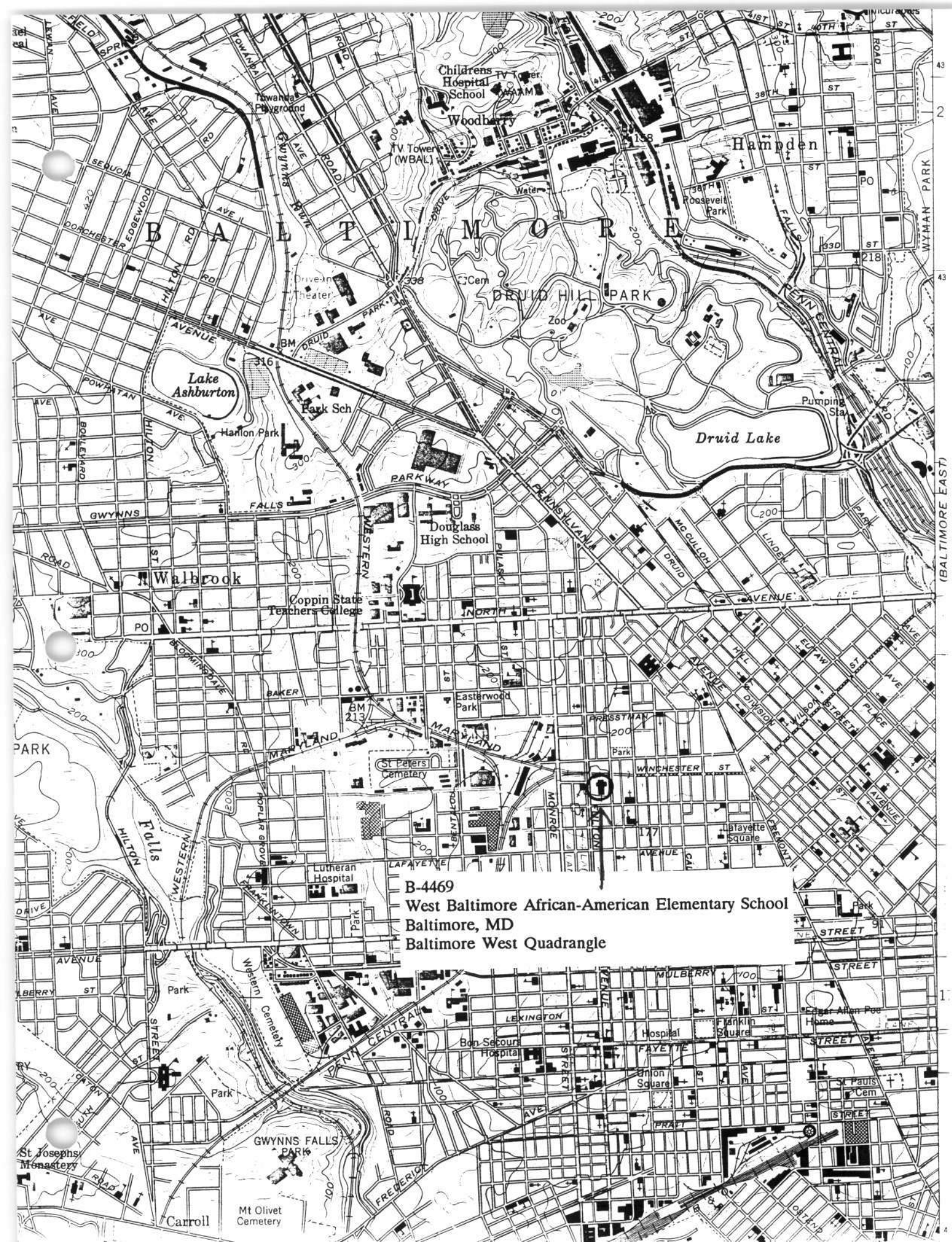
Piggs



mount



B-4469
West Baltimore African-American Elementary School
Baltimore, MD
Baltimore City Map, 1978



B-4469
West Baltimore African-American Elementary School
Baltimore, MD
Baltimore West Quadrangle

B-4469

West Baltimore African-American Elementary School (Coppin Elementary School, School No. 132)

1150 Mount Street (now 1114 N. Mount Street)

Block 0041 Lot 008

Baltimore City

Baltimore West Quad.





SANDTOWN - WINCHESTER / PENN-NORTH

#B-4469

BALTIMORE, MD

ELIZABETH G. LAMPE

MARCH 1992

CITY OF BALTIMORE, COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL
PRESERVATION

HISTORIC: **West Baltimore African-American** (Site of **DR. J. MARYLAND**
CURRENT: **School** (**HOMEOPATHIC HOSPITAL**)

1st 1150 York St

VIEWS FACING NORTH 180°

ROLL 2/1150 9

1 of 2



Sandtown-Winchester/Penn-North

#B-4469

Baltimore, MD

Leonard Jackson

July 1992

City of Baltimore, Commission for Historical and Architectural
Preservation

Historic: West Baltimore African-American Elementary School

Current:

1150 Mount Street

EAST ELEVATION

2 & 2

Roll 9/Neg 35